

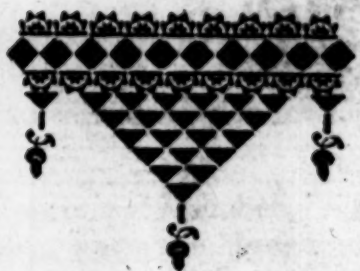
*Mademoiselle St. Bernadine de Lenthewick*

L A W S K

OF THE  
PHYSICAL SOCIETY

HELD AT  
GUY'S HOSPITAL.

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1888

PHYSICAL SOCIETY

TAVERN

7, NATHERTON STREET



LONDON

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## L A W S, &amp;c.

## CHAP. I.

## TIME OF MEETING.

## RULE I.

THE Members of the PHYSICAL SOCIETY shall convene upon the first Saturday of October, (at a Place to be assigned by the Majority on the last Meeting of the Society for the preceding Season,) and on the same Day of every Week thereafter, till the last Saturday of May following.

## II.

Every ordinary Member, who may fail to be present when the Names are called over at the Time appointed for meeting (See ORDER OF THE BUSINESS, CHAP. XIII.) on each Evening, shall, for every such Transgression, forfeit Sixpence, unless he sends a sufficient Excuse on the same Meeting. — If any Member doubts the Propriety of the Excuse, it shall be put to the Ballot, and a Majority shall determine the Point.

## III.

Any ordinary Member, absenting himself for five Nights successively, and not offering any Excuse, during that Time, for Absence, shall be expelled.

## C H A P. II.

## D I S S E R T A T I O N S.

## R U L E I.

At every Meeting of the Society, a Dissertation shall be read, on a medical, surgical, or philosophical, Subject.

## II.

Every ordinary Member, at the first Meeting, under the Penalty of One Shilling, shall give in, on a Piece of Paper, Subject on which he means to write; such Members as are afterwards chosen to do the same, the Week after their Admission. Each of them shall write in Rotation; if any one neglects to bring in his Paper, shall forfeit Ten Shillings and Sixpence, unless he can get another Member to produce Paper in his Room; in which Case he shall be allowed a Fortnight longer. If, however, he neglects to produce it at the Expiration of that Time, he shall pay his Forfeiture.

## III.

The Member whose Turn it is to write shall give in his Paper on the same Evening that the Paper preceding his shall be first read in the Society. On Failure, he shall forfeit Two Shillings and Sixpence. This, however, may be remitted by the Determination of the Majority of the Society, if any Circumstances shall appear that tend to excuse the Member.

## IV.

The Paper, when given in, shall remain Two Days in the Library; when any Gentleman may have Liberty to peruse it. The President shall then keep it till the Time appointed for its Consideration.

## V.

The Dissertation shall be read by the Author, in the Presence of the Society, under the Penalty of Five Shillings. This Fine, however, may be remitted in Consequence of a sufficient Excuse presented to the Society on or before the Meeting immediately following the Offence. Under the same Penalty, and to be remitted only with the same Conditions, the Author shall attend the Society during the Discussion of his Dissertation.

## VI.

After the Dissertation has been read by the Author, the President then in the Chair shall read the Paper over again, and also point out



out such Parts of it as may appear to be proper Objects of the Society's Consideration; and such Remarks as may occur to any Person present may then be offered.

VII.

No Dissertation shall be the Subject of Discussion more than two Meetings.

VIII.

The oldest ordinary Member present at the Beginning of each Season, who has not before written, shall read the first Dissertation of that Season, and shall be succeeded in the Office of Author by the younger Members in the Order of their Proximity to him by Point of Seniority.

IX.

An honorary Member, if he chooses to favour the Society with a Dissertation, may read it at any Meeting, with this Condition, that public Notice of his Intention shall have been given, on or before the Meeting immediately preceding that on which he intends to read it. This Condition, however, shall not be necessary if the first Meeting of a Season is that on which an honorary Member chooses to read his Dissertation. When an honorary Member uses the Privilege provided for him by this Law, the ordinary Member, whose Paper ought to be read according to the Course of Rotation, shall postpone it till the next Meeting, not occupied by the Dissertation of an honorary Member.

ber. After an honorary Member has signified, in the Manner above directed, his Intention to read a Dissertation, a Failure in the Performance of it shall subject him to the same Fine which an ordinary Member would incur by a like Fault.

### CHAP. III.

#### PRESIDENTS.

##### RULE I.

The Teachers of Physic, Anatomy, Chemistry, and Midwifery, shall be considered as perpetual Presidents.

##### II.

They shall attend the Society in the Character of Presidents alternately, and perform the Duties of their Office, under the Penalty of Two Shillings and Sixpence for each Transgression of this Rule; unless a sufficient Excuse be presented to the Society, on or before the next Meeting after the Transgression.

##### III.

In the Absence of the Presidents, the oldest Member present shall supply the Place, under the Penalty of Two Shillings and Sixpence.

##### IV.

The President in the Chair shall read over again, and point out to the Attention of the Society,

Society, (as expressed in CHAP. II. RULE III. such Passages in the Dissertations as he may think particularly worthy of its Notice: he shall call upon the Members for their Opinions: he shall check unprofitable Disputes and shall be invested with Power sufficient to conduct every Part of the Society's Business with becoming Decorum.

## V.

No Member, under the Penalty of One Shilling for each Offence, shall leave the Room where the Society is held, during the Time appointed for the Transaction of Business, without Leave of the President.

## VI.

In such Questions as are to be determined by Vote or Ballot, if the Society shall happen to be equally divided, the President then in the Chair, besides his Vote as a Member shall, as President, have the Privilege of the Casting-Vote.

## CHAP. IV.

MODE OF PROPOSING AND BALLOTING  
FOR MEMBERS, &c.

## RULE I.

When any Gentleman is proposed as a Member, the Member proposing him shall not fail to mention his Residence, and to give



some Account of his Character, that the Society may the better judge how far he is deserving of the Honour. Such Proposal must be seconded; and then, on the succeeding Evening, it will be balloted for. — For the proper Time of proposing Members, see CHAP. XIII. ORDER OF THE BUSINESS.

At the Time that the Names of the ordinary Members are called over, the Secretary shall deliver to each of them, as well as to the honorary Members present, a Piece of Paper on which the Name or Names of those that are to be balloted for are distinctly written; and each Member shall mark, opposite to each Name, YES or NO, according as he wishes to approve or reject. These are to be collected in a small Box, to be sent round for the Purpose, and which is afterwards to be placed upon the Table, until the Arrival of the proper Time to declare the State of the Ballot.

## II.

If a Candidate has no more than two Negatives against him, he shall be admitted; but, if there are more than two, he shall be refused. — For the Form of admitting a Member after he is elected, see CHAP. XIII. ORDER OF THE BUSINESS.

## III.

A Copy of the Laws shall be sent to the new-elected Member by the Person who proposed him; and, if he neglects to subscribe to them, in the Presence of the Society, the

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two succeeding Meetings, he shall be fined Two Shillings and Sixpence each Meeting, and, if he neglects it on the third, he shall forfeit his Seat.

IV.

To decide any other Question, the Mode of balloting shall be by Show of Hands. Any one refusing to hold up his Hand, on one or other Side, shall be fined One Shilling.

CHAP. V.

HONORARY AND CORRESPONDING MEMBERS.

RULE I.

Physicians, Surgeons, Apothecaries, Men of Eminence in any of the Sciences, and such ordinary Members as may have distinguished themselves by their Ingenuity and Endeavours to promote the Good of the Society, can alone be proposed as Honorary Members.

II.

If a Person, in any of these Characters, proposed by a Member as worthy of an Honorary Seat, his Admission or Rejection shall be determined by Ballot, in the Manner expressed in CHAP. IV. But, in this Case, as well as in the Case of ordinary Members, the Determination of the Society shall be final.

secret, under the Penalty of Half a Guinea, to be paid by the Member who shall be found to divulge it.

### III.

Those of the ordinary Members, who are entitled to petition for honorary Seats, are the Members who have attended the Society two Seasons, and have read two Dissertations. The Petitions of such must be given in, and read to, the Society, by the President in the Chair, a Week before they can be balloted for; and cannot be granted if there are more than two Negatives. If, however, there are no more than two, the Desire expressed in the Petitions shall be complied with.

### IV.

The Privileges of Honorary Members shall be the following. — They shall not be obliged to write Dissertations; to attend the Meetings of the Society oftener than may be agreeable to them; nor to contribute any thing towards the Library, or in any other way to the Support of the Society's Expence. They shall not be obliged to accept of any share of the Business of a Committee: but, after having accepted of it, they shall, in so far as they are connected with such Committee, be considered as ordinary Members, and be subject to the same Fines, for the breach of any Law respecting such Committee, which an ordinary Member would incur by a similar Fault. They may present and read Dissertations to the Society when they

they please, with the Conditions already mentioned. If at any Time they should have Occasion to put their Names to the Affairs of the Society, they may, as a Mark of Distinction, make the Addition of *S. H.* (*Socius Honorarius*) to their Subscriptions. They shall enjoy all the Privileges of ordinary Members.

## V.

All the ordinary Members shall, upon their leaving *London*, be considered as Corresponding Ones. Men of Eminence in the Profession, not resident in *London*, may also be proposed as Corresponding Members; to be determined by Ballot, in the Manner observed in the Choice of Honorary and ordinary Members.

## C H A P. VI.

## L I B R A R Y.

## R U L E I.

That a Library, of medical, chirurgical and philosophical, Books, may be purchased for the Benefit of the Society, every ordinary Member shall, at the Time of his Admission pay Five Shillings; and, while he continues to attend the Meetings of the Society, shall also pay One Shilling every Fortnight, (to be collected the first Week of it,) under the Penalty hereafter mentioned, towards the Establishment of a Fund for this Purpose. If a Member

er, from the State of his Affairs, should be obliged to discontinue his Attendance on the Society for more than four Months, he shall, during such Interruption, be exempted from the Contribution for the Library: but, if the Interruption of his Attendance is less than four Months, he shall not be entitled to the above-mentioned Exemption, but must pay for the Library, just as he must have done had his Attendance at the Meetings of the Society been regular.

## II.

The Money thus raised, with the Addition of the Fines that may become due, shall (after the Payment of what necessary Expenses the Society may incur) be from Time to Time applied in purchasing such Books as shall be proposed by the Committee, or by the Presidents if they think proper, and afterwards approved of by the Society at large.

## III.

Every Member of the Society shall be entitled to borrow Books from the Library; but shall not have more than one Work belonging to it in his Possession at one Time; for which, at the Time of receiving, he shall deposit, in the Hands of the Librarian, its full Value, and shall return it within a Fortnight after receiving it, if desired by the Librarian, under the Penalty of Sixpence for every Day he keeps it, after being so desired to return it. And, if a Member should lose any of these Books, he shall either forfeit the Money, so deposited,



deposited, to the Librarian, or put other Copies of equal Value in their Place.

## CHAP. VII.

### LIBRARIAN.

#### RULE I.

He must be an Honorary Member.

#### II.

The Office of Librarian shall always be offered to the Apothecary of the Hospital. — In Case of Refusal, the Librarian shall then be chosen from the ordinary Members who have attended one Season; and the Person fixed on shall be made an Honorary Member.

#### III.

His Business shall be, to take Care of the Books; — to keep a Catalogue of them; — to give them out to such Members as may have Occasion for them; — and, when the Time allowed for their Perusal is expired, to call them in again. He shall not be obliged to give out Books at any Time, except one Hour before the Meeting of the Society. On Failure at this Time, if he doth not depute some Person to act for him, he shall be fined One Shilling.

#### IV.

A Catalogue of the Books shall be annexed to every printed Copy of the Laws, to be given to each of the Members.

#### V.

## V.

The Librarian shall also be invested with the Office of Treasurer, and in this Character shall receive Payment of all Debts due to the Society. From the Money, which he shall thus receive, he shall defray the Expences of the Society, and shall be accountable to it for the Balance.

## C H A P. VIII.

## S E C R E T A R Y.

## R U L E I.

A Secretary shall be annually chosen from those who were Members the preceding Season.

## II.

His Duty shall be, to keep Minutes of the Society's Transactions; — to read aloud the Minutes, and List of Members, when necessary; — to collect and keep an Account of Fines, Admission, and Subscription, Money; — to be accountable to the Treasurer for those Sums which he (the Secretary) shall receive from the Society's Debtors; — and to collect Ballots and Votes.

## III.

He shall give in, on the first *Saturday* of every Month, an Account of the Society's Money, &c. and, in Failure thereof, the  
Treasurer

Treasurer shall be fined One Shilling. the End of the Season he may be proposed Honorary Member.

IV.

If he fails in drawing up the Minutes, commits any Fault in his Office, he shall liable to a Fine of One Shilling, determinable by a Majority of the Society.

CHAP. IX.

CONSTITUTION OF A QUORUM

RULE I.

Five Members, when legally met, shall sufficient to constitute a Quorum, and shall be entitled to proceed in the Transaction of Business, according to the Laws, except what regards the Repealing, Suspending, Altering of the Laws: But a smaller Number, unless formed into a Committee, shall have no Power to do any Thing relating to the Society.

II.

Ten Members, when legally met, (but smaller Number,) shall be entitled to make and determine upon, Proposals for repealing, suspending, and altering, Laws, according to CHAP. XV. which more particularly prescribes the Rules to be observed in such Proceedings.

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CHAP. X.

VISITORS.

RULE I.

Each Member shall have the Privilege of introducing One Gentleman, but no more, at every Meeting of the Society, during public Business, in the Character of Visitor. The Presidents, however, shall not be limited in this Respect.

II.

The same Gentleman shall not be introduced as a Visitor more than twice in a Season; and any Member breaking this Rule, by attempting again to introduce such a one, shall be fined One Shilling.

III.

No Visitors shall be admitted after Seven o'clock (*the Time of Meeting*) without the Member introducing such being fined Sixpence: And this shall be observed by honorary as well as ordinary Members, the Presidents excepted.

IV.

The Secretary shall always be in the Room, where the Society meets, five Minutes before the Hour of Meeting, for the Purpose of delivering printed Tickets for such Gentlemen as are entitled to be introduced; and, upon the President's taking the Chair, every Mem-

ber who has introduced a Visitor shall deliver the Ticket into the Hands of the President Upon which the President will read the Name of the Visitor's and the Persons introducing them.

V.

The Visitors shall be entitled to offer whatever Observations may occur to them, whatever Opinions they may entertain concerning the Subject under Consideration, deliver any new Intelligence they may have received, relating to Medicine or the Science connected with it, and to join in the Debate of the Society.

VI.

The Visitors shall not be present during the Transaction of private Business.

C H A P. XI.

C O M M I T T E E.

R U L E I.

At the Commencement of every Season, Committee shall be appointed, consisting of Eight of the Members: One Half to be chosen by the sitting President; the other by the Society at large. This Committee shall transact such Business as cannot conveniently be done by the whole Society, and shall make regular Reports of their Proceedings to the Society.



II.

The Gentlemen of the Committee may themselves fix the Time of their Meeting: But, after it is determined, any Member of the Society, who fails to attend at the Time appointed, shall forfeit One Shilling; unless he can produce a sufficient Excuse on or before the next Meeting of the Society.

III.

No ordinary Member, under the Penalty of a Shilling, when chosen, can refuse to engage in any Committee, unless he can give a Reason for his Refusal, which shall appear sufficient to the Majority of the Society.

C H A P. XII.

When any Question, relating to the private Business of the Society, occurs, any Gentleman present may demand a Determination by Ballot.

C H A P. XIII.

ORDER OF THE BUSINESS, &c.

R U L E I.

The Business of the Society shall be of two Kinds; viz. public and private.

II.

The public Business shall consist in the Communication of Facts and Opinions; in  
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the Reading of Dissertations, and the Remarks which these may suggest to the Members and Visitors.

### III.

The private Business shall be formed every other Transaction, relating to the Society, not comprehended under the Head public Business.

THE ORDER OF THE BUSINESS, AT EVERY MEETING, SHALL BE CONDUCTED THE FOLLOWING MANNER.

1. The Names of the ordinary Members called over at Seven o'Clock.
2. Visitors declared by the President.
3. The public Minutes of the preceding Meeting read.
4. Medical News enquired for, and Remarks which may be suggested in Consequence thereof. This to be concluded Eight o'Clock.
5. The Dissertation shall be read and discussed. This to conclude at Half past Nine.
6. The private Minutes shall be read and confirmed, the Visitors having previously withdrawn.
7. The Members elected at the last Meeting shall be formally admitted, the President taking each by the Hand and declaring him a Member; not, however, until he has signed his Name under a Promise (in one of the Society's Books) to observe the Laws and pre-

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the Interest of the Society. In Case of  
Failure, see CHAP. IV.

9. Members are next to be proposed in the  
manner laid down in CHAP. IV.

10. The Author, with his Subject for the  
next Evening, declared, and his Paper re-  
ceived, as required in CHAP. II. RULE III.

11. The Ballot shall be declared.

12. After all this and any other private  
business (as looking into the State of Ac-  
counts, &c.) is finished, the Money shall  
be collected, and such Members as are not  
present, and who have not authorized some  
other Persons to pay for them, shall be fined,  
see CHAP. XIV. RULE VI.

13. The Whole of the Business shall be  
concluded by Ten o'Clock.

## CH A P. XIV.

### EXPULSION OF MEMBERS.

#### RULE I.

Any Member, having a Desire to accuse  
another, in Order that he should be expelled,  
shall give in such Accusation, with his Rea-  
sons, to the President in Writing; which is  
to be read to the Society by the President,  
(the Accuser's Name being kept secret,) and  
the Question balloted for. Ten Shillings and  
pence must accompany the Accusation,  
and, in Case it is rejected, the Money may  
be

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be deposited in the Society's Fund : But if the Accusation is found sufficient, the President shall return the Money, so deposited to the Accuser.

II.

Two-thirds of the Society present must prove of the Accusation, otherwise it will not be sustained.

III.

The Ballot determining this Point shall be a secret one, either by Papers or Balls.

IV.

The accused Member shall be present at the Meeting which is to decide on his Accusation ; and, for this Purpose, the Secretaries shall give him Information in Writing, for the Time between the Meeting on which the Accusation is made and the next Meeting of the Society ; specifying the Meeting on which the Question is to be determined, and summoning him to attend.

V.

A Fortnight shall intervene between the Meeting on which the Accusation is made and that on which it is to be determined. But the Society may either shorten or prolong the Time, at the Desire of the Member, if the Reasons given are found sufficient.

VI.

Any Member, indebted to the Society in Fines or otherwise, shall forfeit Sixpence, Addition

Wilson, If he does not discharge the Debt  
Fortnight: If he does not pay it the  
Meeting, One Shilling more; and, if  
neglects it the fourth Week, he shall be  
*ipso facto* expelled. Again, any Member,  
absent to the Society, going out of Town,  
not substituting some one to pay for him,  
tending a sufficient Excuse in a Month,  
shall be *ipso facto* expelled.

## CHAP. XV.

### ALTERING THE LAWS.

#### RULE I.

None of the Laws, which are already, or  
hereafter may be, made, shall be re-  
pealed, suspended, or altered, without the  
consent of three-fourths of the Society pre-  
sent: Nor, without the same Consent, can any  
Law, inconsistent with any of those in be-  
ing at the Time, be enacted. As soon, how-  
ever, as three-fourths of the Society have  
consented to the Necessity of altering the Laws,  
such new ones as are proposed shall be  
determined by a Majority of the Society.

#### II.

In Order to the Repeal, Suspension, Al-  
teration, or Enaction, of Laws, a Proposal  
for that Purpose, in Writing, must be deli-  
vered to the President, read by him in the  
Presence



Presence of the Society, and entered  
Minutes a Month before it can be  
for : And, if it is rejected, the Member  
made it shall forfeit Two Shillings  
pence.

F I N I S .



\* \* The List of Officers and Members,  
the Catalogue of Books, are printed separately.